Dementia Studio
a place to create and connect
for people with dementia and their carers



NEWS Autumn 2026

WELCOME

My role as chair of trustees for the Dementia Studio began only a few months ago and this is my first opportunity to say a public thank you to all of you who support and engage with the charity. This newsletter introduces you to five new trustees each with their own personal motivation and commitment to the charity. We all recognise the work that has gone before us. As this newsletter reflects, The Dementia Studio is vibrant, welcoming and supportive, thanks to our experienced and committed staff and volunteers. We have recently said goodbye to some of our most valued and we wish them all well. We continue to seek out and welcome new members to this very special community. Thank you for being part of it.

A WORD FROM THE CHAIR



Shelly Wood, Chair of Trustees

WAYS OF WORKING

Creativity remains central to our day care approach. Carefully-planned and expert-led activities encourage participation, communication and enjoyment. Everyone can join in at a level which suits their interests. Physical activity, games, conversation and topical themes add to the mix. The aim is to send everyone home knowing that they have had a good time amongst friends.





GOOD TIMES WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY

Our annual social events have become calendar fixtures. Each August we hold a Summer Picnic. Held at Wollaton Park in 2025, and indoors in 2026 due to the heat, the many guests and family members enjoyed live music, refreshments, dancing and companionship in a welcoming setting. The picnic generates heartfelt feedback from participants and demonstrates the impact that inclusive, community-based activities can have in reducing isolation and creating joyful, shared experiences. Generous support from The Park Open Gardens Scheme helped fund the picnic. A grant from the Albert Hunt Trust enabled us to hold a memorable Christmas party uniting friends old and new and to take a large group to the pantomime last winter.



A dementia-friendly music fundraiser raised £800 for Sporting Memories in May 2025, helping strengthen an important partnership that supports weekly sessions for people with dementia and their carers to connect over a shared passion for sports. Our thanks to Tony French for going above and beyond as MC.

MEET OUR NEW TRUSTEES

Our trustees are volunteers. They look after the charity's money, plans and standards so that the staff can get on with what matters, which is spending time with our guests. We are very pleased to welcome five new people to the board.



Chris Clark
Digital lead

I retired after running my own business. I have been a full time carer for my wife who was living with dementia and I have a deep understanding of the needs of those with dementia and carers.



Barrie Humphriss
Risk & safeguarding

Both my parents had dementia so I'd like to help those in the local community who share this experience. I'm retired & do endurance stuff for fun.



Patrick Jordan
Treasurer

I'm pleased to be a part of this team and what we discover about ourselves through activities, arts and music.



Arisina Ma
Safeguarding & risk

I am a geriatrician working in the local NHS Trust. I trained in Hong Kong and have lived in the UK since 2021. I look forward meeting many lovely people here.



Shelly Wood
Chair & Data Guardian

I have a background in education and community arts. I absolutely love the ethos and approach of The Studio and have enjoyed learning more about its aims and impact.



Justine Schneider
Board Secretary

My 30+ years as a dementia researcher led me to help set up the Studio and I currently manage operations.

The charity is grateful to the Trustees who have stepped down in 2026 for their countless services to Dementia Studio: Primo Sule, Charlotte Atkinson, John Berry, Deborah Kitson and Rosemary Carpenter

A BRIEF REVIEW

Alongside service delivery, in 2025-6 we continued to strengthen our organisation for the future. Grants from the Allen Lane Trust and McClay Trust enabled us to employ an operational manager for one year. This released trustees' time to focus on policy development and fundraising. A Sport England/National Lottery project to offer physiotherapy-led exercise sessions proved highly popular. In response to demand we are developing more physical activity-focused opportunities. We are also expanding outreach for our regular day care and working in partnership with other local providers. A new group for people with mild dementia will be shaped by its participants' choices. Sporting Memories makes Tuesday afternoons special for several couples and our Going Solo group continues monthly. None of this would be possible without the dedication of our volunteers, funders, partners and supporters. **Together, we are helping people living with dementia and their carers to enjoy creativity, companionship, improved wellbeing and a stronger sense of belonging. Every donation, volunteer hour and partnership project contributes to making our communities more dementia-friendly and ensuring that no one faces dementia alone.**





COMMUNITY OUTREACH 2025-6

- Hosted the Radford Dementia Information Programme in April 2026
- Hosted Listening Events for Broxtowe Action Network on Dementia (BAND) conferences in 2025 and 26.
- Hosted the ABC Art Trail in 2025 and 26.
- Trained 4 volunteer Dementia Navigators to advise and support people

DEMENTIA DIRECTORY

The authoritative guide to services in the Broxtowe locality: carer entitlements, resources and where to get help.
Can also be found on our website dementiastudio.org

LIVING BESIDE DEMENTIA



Caroline Baker (l) and Rosemary Carpenter were recognised by Broxtowe Borough Council in 2025 for their dedicated and long-term volunteering at The Studio. The pair have recently founded a new organisation to cater for the needs of dementia carers, called Living Beside Dementia.

New locations for some groups

Living Beside Dementia now runs Couples Support sessions on Wednesdays at Toton Methodist Church, while the Monday morning Carers' Corner meet-up now takes place at the Nurseryman Pub, corner of Derby Road and Wollaton Road, 10.45-12.15.

Contact

admin@livingbesidedementia.com
or ring 07561 551026/07522 057528

DONATE

GET IN TOUCH

Dementia Studio, 16 Hallcroft, Beeston NG91EL

Phone: 07543 534336 Email: admin@dementiastudio.org
Web: www.dementiastudio.org